

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 01906 191930Z

14-11

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 BIB-01 DODE-00 AF-06 NEA-09

CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 ACDA-05 /088 W

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R 191645Z MAR 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1501

INFO ALL CSCE CAPITALS 263

AMEMBASSY OSLO

USNMR SHAPE

USLO SACLANT FORFOLK VA

CINCLANT

USCINCEUR

USDOCOSOUTH

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 1906

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE, PFOR, PARM, XG

SUBJECT: CSCE: NEUTRAL VIEW ON MANEUVER CBM

1. IN ALLIED CBM CAUCUS ON MARCH 17, IT EMERGED THAT NEUTRALS AND EAST EUROPEANS HAVE NOW LEARNED ABOUT CANADIAN APPROACH ON MANEUVER PARAMETERS, AT LEAST IN OUTLINE FORM, AND ALLIES AGREED THAT NEUTRALS SHOULD BE APPRISED DIRECTLY IN BROAD TERMS OF IDEAS UNDER CONSIDERATION IN ALLIANCE, SO AS TO MAINTAIN GENERALLY COORDINATED TACTICS.

2. CANADIAN REP REPORTED THAT HE WAS ASKED BY EAST GERMAN REP "HOW IS YOUR MATRIX COMING ALONG?" UK REP SAID YUGOSLAVS HAD CONCEIVED OF A MATRIX APPROACH WHICH APPEARED TO BE SIMILAR TO CANADIAN IDEA, BUT SPECIFICALLY LINKING ONLY THRESHOLD AND AREA. BELGIAN REP HAD HEARD THAT AUSTRALIANS WERE CONTEMPLATING A DIFFERENTIATED LEVEL OF OBLIGATION FOR PRIOR NOTIFICATION OF MANEUVERS, DEPENDING ON DISTANCE OF MANUEVER FROM BORDERS. DUTCH
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 01906 191930Z

REP HAD HEARD SAME IDEA, HAD TESTED IT WITH SOVIETS, AND

HAD ASKED FOR INSTRUCTIONS FROM HAGUE ON WHETHER DELEGATION
COULD SUPPORT IT.

3. IN VIEW OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS, MOST CAUCUS REPS BELIEVED
THAT NEUTRALS SHOULD PROMPTLY BE INFORMED OF ALLIED
THINKING, EVEN THOUGH ALLIES WERE NOT YET AGREED ON WHAT
NEW IDEAS SHOULD BE USED OR HOW AND WHEN, SO AS TO
PRECLUDE SEPARATE NEUTRAL AND ALLIED INITIATIVES THAT
MIGHT SIMPLY LEAD TO CONFUSION AND CANCEL EACH OTHER
OUT. US AND UK REPS ARGUED THAT IT WOULD BE BETTER TO
WAIT UNTIL AFTER EASTER BEFORE SETTING UP ANY FORMAL
MEETING WITH NEUTRALS, TO GIVE FURTHER TIME FOR
REFLECTION ON POSSIBLE ALLIED COUNTERMOVES TO NEW SOVIET
IDEAS. AS A COMPROMISE, CAUCUS AGREED THAT CANADIAN
REP SHOULD BRIEF AUSTRIAN LEADER OF NEUTRAL CAUCUS
(GEN. KUNTNER) ON MATRIX IDEA IN GENERAL TERMS AND ON
PERSONAL BASIS, AND SHOULD AT SAME TIME SET UP COORDINATING
MEETING BETWEEN ALLIED AND NEUTRAL CAUCUSES IN WEEK
AFTER EASTER.

4. COMMENT: SOVIETS HAVE MADE IT CLEAR TO US IN BI-
LATERAL CONTACTS THAT IDEA OF US "FRIENDS" (PRESUMABLY
NETHERLANDS) FOR DIFFERENTIATED LEVEL OF OBLIGATION
FOR MANEUVERS CBM, DEPENDING ON SIZE OR AREA OF MAN-
EUVER, WOULD BE INCONSISTENT WITH THEIR VIEW THAT
ALL NOTIFICATIONS SHOULD BE ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS.
THUS WE DOUBT THAT THIS NEW IDEA WILL SURVIVE LONG
OR SURFACE FORMALLY IN SUBCOMMITTEE, WHATEVER ITS
GENESIS MAY HAVE BEEN. DALE

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